

REMARKS

In the patent application, claims 3-41, 43, 44 and 47-52 are pending. In the office action, all pending claims are rejected.

Applicant has amended claims 3, 11, 16, 26, 35, 43 and 49.

Claims 3, 11, 16, 26 and 35 have been amended to correct typographic errors.

Claim 43 has been rewritten as an independent claim.

Claim 49 should have been labeled as “currently amendment” in the amendment as filed on April 4, 2008. Instead, claim 49 was erroneously labeled as “new”. Applicant is not sure claim 49 has been amended along with other claims in the amendment filed April 4, 2008, and, therefore, claim 49 is resubmitted herein as a “currently amended” claim.

On page 3 of the office action, claims 11, 26 and 35 are objected to because of some informalities.

Applicant has amended claims 11, 26 and 35 as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 3, 16-22, 26-32 and 51-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Wee et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,441, hereafter referred to as *Wee*).

In rejecting these claims, the Examiner states that *Wee* discloses that

if the frame characteristic of that at least one video frame is the first characteristic (I frame), the bitstream is modified in the compressed domain based on specified editing parameters, but

if the frame characteristic of that at least one video frame is a second characteristic (P or B frame), then one or more preceding frames are decoded along with that at least one video frame, and the last of the decoded frames is encoded before the bitstream is modified (col. 11, lines 9-32).

Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In col.11, lines 9-32, *Wee* only discloses that if the first frame in a sequence to be appended to another image sequence is a P frame (such as a sequence PBBPI to be cut from an original sequence ...BBIPBPBBPI...), then, before cutting, the first three frames in the sequence to be appended, or “PBB”, are decoded to the image domain, and then these three image-domain frames are recorded as “IPB” (col.11, line 24-26). Effectively, the above-mentioned five-frame sequence becomes IPBPI before cutting.

In order to clarify the approach as disclosed in *Wee*, each of the frames in a time sequence is labeled such that the original sequence becomes ... B₀B₁I₂P₃B₄P₅B₆B₇P₈I₉... , and the sub-sequence to be appended to another image sequence is P₅B₆B₇P₈I₉.... The cutting, in this example, is carried out between frames B₄ and P₅. Before cutting, the first three frames P₅B₆B₇ in the sub-sequence P₅B₆B₇P₈I₉... are decoded into image domain and then recorded as I₅P₆B₇ so that the sub-sequence to be appended to another image sequence becomes I₅P₆B₇P₈I₉... According to *Wee*, none of the preceding framesB₀B₁I₂P₃B₄ is decoded.

The claimed invention is different. When the same sequence ... B₀B₁I₂P₃B₄P₅B₆B₇P₈I₉... is modified, the preceding frames I₂P₃B₄ are decoded along with P₅B₆B₇P₈I₉...

Wee does not disclose or suggest this approach.

For the above reasons, *Wee* fails to anticipate all the independent claims 3, 16, 26, 35, 43 and 49. For the same reasons, *Wee* fails to anticipate dependent claims 17-22, 27-32 and 51-52. *Wee*, when used in combination with one or more secondary references, also fail to render all other dependent frames obvious.

On page 9, claims 4-11, 15, 35-41, 43-44 and 47-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wee*, in view of *Naimpally et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,477,397, hereafter referred to as *Naimpally*). In rejecting those claims, the Examiner admitted that *Wee* fails to disclose converting the VLC coded video into a binary form prior to said modification, but pointed to *Naimpally* for disclosing converting VLC coded data into a binary form.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 4-11, 15, 35-41, 43-44 and 47-50 are dependent from claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49 and recite features not recited in claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49. As amended, independent claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49 include the further limitations that the frame characteristics of a video frame include a first characteristic and a second characteristic, and if the frame characteristic of at least one video frame identified for video editing is the first characteristic, the bitstream is modified in the compressed domain based on specified editing parameters, but if the frame characteristic of that at least one video frame is a second characteristic, then one or more preceding frames are decoded along with that at least one video frame before the bitstream is modified.

Neither *Naimpally* nor *Wee* discloses the above-described further limitations.

For the above reasons, the cited *Naimpally* and *Wee* references, whether used individually or in combination, fail to render dependent claims 4-11, 15, 35-41, 43-44 and 47-50 obvious.

On page 14, claims 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wee*, in view of *Naimpally*, and further in view of *Abe* (U.S. Patent No. 6,618,491). The Examiner cites *Abe* for disclosing combining the audio data with edited video data.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 12-14 are dependent from claim 3 and recite features not recited in claim 3. For reasons regarding claim 3 above, claims 12-14 are also distinguishable over the cited *Naimpally*, *Wee* and *Abe* references.

On page 15, claims 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wee*, in view of *Abe*.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 23-25 are dependent from claim 16 and recite features not recited in claim 16. For reasons regarding claim 16 above, claims 23-25 are also distinguishable over the cited *Wee* and *Abe* references.

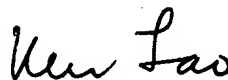
On page 16, claims 33 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wee*, in view of *Ikonen* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No, 2003/0005329).

It is respectfully submitted that claims 33 and 34 are dependent from claim 26 and recite features not recited in claim 26. For reasons regarding claim 26 above, claims 33 and 34 are also distinguishable over the cited *Wee* and *Ikonen* references.

CONCLUSION

Claims 3-41, 43, 44 and 47-52 are allowable. Early allowance of claims 3-41, 43, 44 and 47-52 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 27, 2008

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